



County of Lincoln — Parts of Lindsey



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
County Medical Officer of Health
for the Year
1941

W. S. H. CAMPBELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H,
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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Administrative County	961,278 acres
Population (census 1931)	263,498
Estimated Population 1941	271,570
Number of Inhabited Houses (census 1931)	66,654
Number of Separate families or occupiers (census 1931)	6,8121
Average number of persons per house (census 1931)	3.9
Rateable value at 1st April, 1941	£1,260,267
Estimated product of a penny rate	£4,820
Sanitary District	Populations. (Estimated 1941)
Municipal Boroughs 3	131,030
Urban Districts 9	140,540
Rural Districts 9	

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:—

Legitimate	4,357
Illegitimate	333
Total	4,690

Birth Rate per 1,000 population 17.26

Still Births:—

Legitimate	171
Illegitimate	17
Total	188

Rate of still births per 1,000 total births 40.08

Deaths:— Total 3,316

Crude death rate per 1,000 population 12.21

Deaths from Diseases and accidents, of Pregnancy and Childbirth:—

From Sepsis	2
Other causes	9

Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 total births 1.8

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age 221

Death Rate:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	47
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	46
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	60
Deaths from Heart Disease	788
Deaths from Cancer	465
Deaths from Tuberculosis:—	
(a) Pulmonary	119
(b) Other forms	37

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS.

LIVE BIRTHS, 1941

Districts	Total Births	Legitimate	Illegitimate
URBAN			
Alford	26	21	5
Barton-on-Humber	111	102	9
Brigg	62	56	6
Cleethorpes Borough	443	416	27
Gainsborough	252	235	17
Horn castle	69	60	9
Louth Borough	186	173	13
Mablethorpe	93	87	6
Market Rasen	32	29	3
Scunthorpe Borough	855	812	43
Skegness	116	98	18
Woodhall Spa	24	20	4
Aggregate Urban Districts	2269	2109	160
RURAL			
Glanford Brigg	508	466	42
Caistor	197	187	10
Gainsborough	188	176	12
Grimsby	201	187	14
Horn castle	207	189	18
Isle of Axholme	202	192	10
Louth	309	283	26
Spilsby	399	371	28
Welton	210	197	13
Aggregate Rural Districts	2421	2248	173
Whole County	4690	4357	333

STILL-BIRTHS, 1941

Districts	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
URBAN			
Alford	4	—	4
Barton-on-Humber	2	—	2
Brigg	3	—	3
Cleethorpes Borough	12	—	12
Gainsborough	11	2	13
Horncastle	1	—	1
Louth Borough	5	1	6
Mablethorpe and Sutton	5	2	7
Market Rasen	1	—	1
Scunthorpe Borough	28	2	30
Skegness	3	1	4
Woodhall Spa	4	—	4
Aggregate Urban Districts	79	8	87
RURAL			
Glanford Brigg	12	2	14
Caistor	6	—	6
Gainsborough	11	2	13
Grimsby	9	1	10
Horncastle	14	1	15
Isle of Axholme	12	1	13
Louth	13	—	13
Spilsby	11	2	13
Welton	4	—	4
Aggregate Rural Districts	92	9	101
Whole County	171	17	188

Causes of all Deaths in the County at Different ages—1941

Causes of Death	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	4	5	3	2	1	15
3. Scarlet Fever	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
4. Whooping Cough	10	4	3	—	—	—	17
5. Diphtheria	—	—	5	—	1	—	6
6. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	2	1	4	72	27	13	119
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	9	5	14	2	6	37
8. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	6	10	4	20
9. Influenza	3	1	—	5	12	24	45
10. Measles	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
11. Ac. Polio-Myel. and Polio-Enceph.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Ac. Inf. Enceph.	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
13. Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph. Uterv.	—	—	—	3	24	43	70
14. Cancer of Stomach, Duodenum	—	—	—	4	25	43	72
15. Cancer of Breast	—	—	—	4	21	17	42
16. Cancer of all other Sites	—	1	—	20	101	159	281
17. Diabetes	—	—	—	3	10	10	23
18. Inter-Cranial Vascular Lesions	—	—	—	5	85	260	350
19. Heart Disease	—	—	3	20	161	604	788
20. Other Dis. of Circ. System	1	—	—	3	9	89	102
21. Bronchitis	13	1	—	7	32	133	186
22. Pneumonia	34	5	1	10	25	27	102
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1	—	5	19	12	39
24. Ulcer of Stomach, Duodenum	—	—	—	2	16	13	31
25. Diarrhoea, under 2 years	10	2	—	—	—	—	12
26. Appendicitis	—	1	—	3	9	2	15
27. Other Digestive Diseases	1	1	—	15	33	42	92
28. Nephritis	—	—	—	5	29	59	93
29. Puerperal & Post-Abort. Sepsis	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
30. Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—	7	—	—	7
31. Premature Birth	64	—	—	—	—	—	64
32. Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Infant Disease	58	4	1	2	—	—	65
33. Suicide	—	—	—	6	8	5	19
34. Road Traffic Accidents	—	6	5	15	13	8	47
35. Other Violent Causes	5	5	9	40	23	43	125
36. All other Causes	16	7	9	33	57	303	425
Total	221	54	52	314	755	1920	3316

Causes of Death in each District in the County at all Ages—1941

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Sanitary Inspection

The increasing demand of Civil Defence duties on the time of Inspectors is still curtailing systematic inspection of districts, and as a rule only urgent matters are being dealt with, but it appears that all complaints are promptly investigated and remedied as quickly as possible. The supply of materials for repair work has slightly improved but still affords at times a good excuse for not carrying out necessary works.

Housing

Progress in this respect has ceased, judged from a pre-war standard, but the slight increase in overcrowding and general maintenance of reasonable conditions reflects credit on Local Authorities. Although restricted, improvements under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, are still carried out if recommended by the War Agricultural Committee as necessary.

Rural Water Supplies

For military purposes, extension of water mains has increased and in some cases is taxing the pumping plants, but a good supply is maintained. A satisfactory feature is the control of quality by regular sampling for chemical and bacteriological examination, a most important precaution.

For fire fighting and emergency purposes it is most important that unused wells and pumps be kept in good condition.

Scavenging

Owing to labour difficulties, many rural Authorities have been forced to reduce the frequency of collection, and the public will have to make greater efforts on their own behalf.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

No major additions have been made to schemes of Local Authorities, but increased service installations have caused some difficulties owing to poor siting and inexperienced operation; closer liaison in this matter between the service departments and Local Authorities would have minimised these troubles.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936

The general standard of production remains satisfactory, the number of licences issued being 10 T.T. and 181 Accredited. Of 367 samples from licensed producers, 86 or 23% were unsatisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There was no major epidemic of any of the infectious diseases in 1941.

Particulars of the cases notified are given in the table which follows:—

Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases in Urban and Rural Districts—1941

SANITARY DISTRICTS																		
	Total number notified	Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid Fever & Paratyphoid	Puerperal Pyrexia	Respiratory Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculous Diseases	Small-pox	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Encephalitis Lethargica	Poliomyelitis	Dysentery	Polio-encephalitis	Measles	Whooping Cough
URBAN—																		
Alford	29	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	10	13	
Barton-on-Humber	81	2	1	9	—	4	3	1	—	1	—	7	—	—	—	11	42	
Brigg	43	1	3	5	—	1	—	5	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	5	17	
Cleethorpes Borough	699	20	6	40	—	6	15	11	—	8	3	24	—	1	—	365	200	
Gainsborough	505	7	9	10	—	2	8	7	—	7	1	68	—	3	—	361	22	
Horncastle	86	3	2	27	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	7	30	
Louth Borough	220	3	2	4	—	8	8	9	—	3	1	5	—	1	—	132	44	
Mablethorpe	32	—	2	12	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	3	8	
Market Rasen	27	2	—	6	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	11	
Scunthorpe Borough	1080	58	15	104	4	20	32	16	—	15	3	99	1	—	1	373	339	
Skegness	73	6	—	8	2	5	9	2	—	16	3	—	—	—	—	17	5	
Woodhall Spa	22	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	2	11	
	2897	102	40	227	7	49	83	56	—	53	13	227	2	5	1	—	1290	742
RURAL—																		
Glanford Brigg	496	14	8	53	—	4	11	12	—	10	2	43	—	—	—	177	162	
Caistor	109	1	1	18	—	2	8	5	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	28	37	
Gainsborough	153	6	1	4	—	15	5	4	—	3	4	12	—	—	—	90	9	
Grimsby	91	8	1	4	—	1	10	5	—	3	—	4	—	1	—	23	31	
Horncastle	107	5	3	9	—	3	2	4	—	2	2	12	—	1	—	23	41	
Isle of Axholme	18	5	—	4	1	—	4	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	
Louth	179	1	5	15	—	1	4	3	—	3	2	3	1	1	—	98	42	
Spilsby	296	5	5	28	1	3	14	4	—	10	3	9	—	—	—	150	64	
Welton	178	2	3	5	—	—	5	3	—	6	1	4	—	1	—	70	78	
	1627	47	27	140	2	29	63	42	—	37	14	98	1	4	—	659	464	
Total for County	4524	149	67	367	9	78	146	98	—	90	27	325	3	9	1	—	1949	1206

Diphtheria

Compared with the previous year there were 102 fewer cases of Diphtheria reported. There were 6 deaths as against 10 in 1940.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever

Nine cases of these diseases were notified in 1941 as compared with 4 in 1940. There were no deaths.

Cerebro Spinal Meningitis

The increased prevalence of this disease reported last year is again evident. The average number of cases notified for the five year period ended 1939 was 3 and the average number of deaths for the same period 1. In 1940, 90 cases were notified and there were 23 deaths. In 1941, there were again 90 cases notified with 15 deaths.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation

Treatment in Isolation Hospitals was provided by the County Council for 351 infectious cases during the year. 145 of these were treated at the Council's own hospital at Brumby. The remainder were, by arrangement, dealt with at hospitals belonging to other authorities. Particulars of the cases admitted are as follows:—

Number of Admissions

Isolation Hospital	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Erysipelas	Mumps	Measles	Other Diseases
Brumby	40	73	6	2	—	9	—	15
Doncaster	15	2	—	—	—	—	—	4
Osgodby	67	14	—	—	1	2	3	—
Scartho	42	15	19	4	—	3	2	19
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	164	104	25	6	1	14	5	38

The additional 18 beds being provided at the Brumby Hospital should reduce considerably the number of cases at present being sent to hospitals belonging to other authorities.

Tuberculosis

Notifications

New cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year numbered 146. 98 cases of other forms of the disease were also reported. The figure for Pulmonary Tuberculosis is the lowest recorded for the County since the disease became notifiable. The highest number of new cases was notified in 1916 when the figure was 554.

It is interesting to compare the notification figures for the War period 1938—41 with that for 1913—16.

	Notifications 1938—41			Notifications 1913—16	
	Pulmonary	Other forms		Pulmonary	Other forms
1938	221	99	1913	227	92
1939	191	90	1914	277	74
1940	181	89	1915	270	71
1941	.....	146	1916	554	76

Death Rates

There were, as already stated, 119 deaths recorded as due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 37 as due to other forms of the disease. The death rate per 1,000 of the population for Pulmonary Tuberculosis was, therefore 0.45 and that for other forms of the disease 0.12.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930

Summary of Notifications during the period from the 1st January, 1940, to the 31st December, 1941

Age Periods	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis										Total Notifications (all ages)
	0/1	1/5	5/10	10/15	15/20	20/25	25/35	35/45	45/55	55/65	
Pulmonary Males	—	1	2	2	12	8	14	12	14	3	4
Pulmonary Females	—	4	4	1	7	12	25	7	4	6	+
Non-pulmonary Males	—	9	13	5	8	4	10	3	2	—	1
Non-pulmonary Females	—	7	8	6	3	3	10	5	1	—	—
											44

New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above-mentioned period otherwise than by formal notification.

Age periods	0/1	1/5	5/10	10/15	15/20	20/25	25/35	35/45	45/55	55/65	65 and upwards Total Cases
	0/1	1/5	5/10	10/15	15/20	20/25	25/35	35/45	45/55	55/65	
Pulmonary Males	—	—	1	—	3	3	8	6	2	3	2
Pulmonary Females	—	—	1	—	4	5	8	1	4	1	—
Non-Pulmonary Males	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	2	—
Non-Pulmonary Females	1	2	1	1	4	—	2	1	1	—	13

Dispensary Registers

The number of patients diagnosed as suffering from tuberculosis whose names were on the dispensary registers at the end of the year under review, was 1,322. This figure was made up as follows:—

PULMONARY				NON-PULMONARY			
Adults		Children		Adults		Children	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
377	366	77	84	100	107	118	93
743		161		207		211	
	904				418		

Institutional Treatment

Patients receiving institutional treatment during the year, numbered 343 of which 248 were pulmonary and 95 were non-pulmonary cases.

The County Sanatorium at Branston provides 68 beds for women and children. Adult male patients requiring sanatorium treatment are sent to institutions belonging to other authorites.

The Medical Superintendent provided the following summary of the work done in connection with the Branston Sanatorium during the year.

Work done at the Sanatorium during 1941

1. Adults

Admissions	72			
Discharges	77			
		As quiescent	.....	28
		As non-quiescent	.....	23
		Died	.....	15
		As non-tuberculous	.....	11

2. Children

	Boys	Girls	Total
Admissions	11	17	28
Discharges	11	11	22
Quiescent	7	5	12
Non-pulmonary	1	1	2
Non-tuberculous	2	5	7
No diagnosis made	1	—	1

3. X-ray work

Total number taken	580
In-patients	478
Out-patients	102
Bronchograms	6
Adults	2
Children	3
Out-patients	1

4. Artificial Pneumothorax work

In-patients.	No. of Artificial Pneumothoraces induced	31
	Total No. of Refills given	637
	No. of patients receiving treatment	36
	No. of patients with Bilateral A.P.	6
	Pleural Washouts given	1
	Gas-replacements	1
Out-patients.	Total No. of Refills given	114
	Total No. of patients attended	12
	Gas-replacements	1
	Removal of fluid from chest	1

5. Other work

Transferred to Scartho Sanatorium for Thoracoscopy	8
Transferred to Brompton Hospital for Thoracoplasty	1
Temporary Phrenic Crush	1
Sanocrysin treatment	2

Venereal Diseases

New cases attending the treatment centres during the year, numbered 157, syphilis 52 and gonorrhoea 105. The number of new cases reported last year was syphilis 51 and gonorrhoea 94.

The foregoing figures include Lindsey patients who attended Clinics outside the administrative County.

The number of patients remaining under treatment at County Clinics at the end of the year was 109. Pathological work in connection with the V.D. Centres continues to be carried out by the Consultant Venereal Diseases Officers at the Grimsby Corporation Laboratory when 3,005 specimens were examined in 1941. The majority of these, viz. 2,163, were from the treatment centres. Hospitals submitted 644 and private practitioners 198.

CANCER

There were 465 Cancer deaths registered in 1941. This is the highest number hitherto recorded for the County. The age and sex distribution of cancer deaths will be found in the mortality tables given, at the beginning of the report. It will also be noted that cancer as a cause of death is second only to heart disease, and was responsible for nearly one seventh of all deaths in the County during the year.

A joint scheme to serve the geographical County of Lincolnshire, prepared under the Cancer Act 1936 has been approved by the Minister of Health. It will not be possible to put the full scheme into operation during the war but arrangements to open one treatment centre at Scunthorpe are proceeding, and will be completed shortly.

This centre will service the whole of the geographical County until it is possible to bring the full scheme into being.

General Hospitals

The year under review has been one of increased activity for the Council's General Hospitals at Brigg and Louth. Mr. N. J. Nicholson, F.R.C.S., who is the Superintendent and Surgeon at the County Infirmary, Louth, has also undertaken to act in a similar capacity at the County Infirmary, Brigg. This will further the co-ordination of the work of both Hospitals. Mr. Bailey, F.R.C.S., of Scunthorpe, has also been appointed as Surgeon at the Brigg Infirmary. The following is a summary of the admissions and discharges for 1941.

	Admissions.	Births.	Discharges.	Deaths.
County Infirmary, Brigg	606	62	566	58
County Infirmary, Louth	1633	168	1683	159

Blind Persons, Act, 1920

The number of registered Blind persons in the County is now 439 of which 223 are males and 216 females. The age groups of those registered are as follows:

5 yrs.	5-16	16-21	21-50	50-70	70 and over
1	11	9	89	134	195

Mental Deficiency

The following is a summary of the mental defectives on the County Register at the end of 1941.

(A) Number of Cases "Subject to be dealt with"	Males	Females	Total
1. Under 'Order':—			
(a) (1) In Institutions. (excl. cases on Licence)	21	13	34
Aged 16 years and over	126	141	267
(2) On Licence from Institutions Under 16 years of age	4	2	6
Aged 16 years and over	28	31	59
(b) (1) Under Guardianship. (Excl. cases on licence.)			
Under 16 years of age	1	1	2
Aged 16 years and over	9	13	22
(2) On Licence from Guardianship.			
Under 16 years of age	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over	—	—	—
2. In "places of safety":—			
Under 16 years of age	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over	—	—	—
3. Under Statutory Supervision of whom 11 males and 11 females are awaiting removal to an institution	163	141	304
4. Action not yet taken under any one of the above headings.			
(a) Notified by Local Education Authorities (Sec. 2 (2).)	—	—	—
(b) Mental Defectives in receipt of Poor Relief:—			
(1) In Institutions	7	8	15
(2) Domiciliary	—	—	—
(3) Otherwise 'ascertained'	3	4	7
(B) Number of Cases who may become "Subject to be dealt with."			
1. In Institutions or under Guardianship:— dealt with under Sec. 3:—			
(a) In regard to whom the Local Authority contributes under its permissive powers	2	—	2
(b) Maintained wholly by parents, relatives or others	—	1	1
2. *Reported to the Local Authority from any reliable source but as to whom no action has been taken	159	103	262
Of these 11 males and 8 females are under voluntary supervision.			
3. In Institutions but not under the Mental Deficiency Act	72	41	113
TOTAL	595	499	1094

*Includes 14 cases awaiting classification.

Maternity and Child Welfare

Midwifery

There were 184 midwives in practice in the administrative County at the end of the year, 125 as district midwives and 59 in institutions. They attended either as Midwives or Maternity Nurses 2,877 cases in the patients' homes and 1,983 in institutions. Medical aid was summoned by Midwives in 1,306 cases.

Notifications as required by the rules of the Central Midwives Board, were received in respect of the following:—

Ante-Natal Care

The number of expectant mothers attending the Ante-natal Clinics during the year was 2,628. In addition, 65 were ante-natally examined in their own homes by medical practitioners on behalf of the Authority. Home visits to expectant mothers by Health Visitors numbered 1,827.

There were 118 patients admitted to institutions for ante-natal treatment.

Maternity Homes

Particulars of maternity cases admitted to Maternity Homes administered by the County Council, and also to other of the Council's institutions, provided with Maternity Wards, are given in the table which follows.

Institution	No. of ad-missions	Average Stay in days	Cases Delivered		Infant Deaths		Maternal Deaths
			By Doc-tors	By Mid-wives	Still Born	Died within 10 days of birth	
Cleethorpes Maternity Home	364	14	86	254	13	3	—
Gainsborough Maternity Home	223	13.5	103	102	12	2	1
Gate Burton Emergency Maternity Home	506	14	24	443	7	4	—
Scunthorpe Maternity Home	604	12.4	188	349	33	10	1
County Infirmary, Brigg	63	14	8	55	1	1	—
County Infirmary, Louth	241	20	47	135	14	1	1
Spilsby Public Assistance Institution	1	23	—	1	—	—	—

In addition to the patients referred to in the above table 112 cases chiefly of abortion or miscarriage were admitted through arrangements made by the County Council to voluntary Hospitals or to Institutions belonging to other authorities.

Of the patients admitted to institutions controlled by the County Council, 430 were suffering from some abnormality in connection with the pregnancy or confinement.

Infant Welfare

During the year, the total number of attendances of children under 5 years of age, at the Welfare Centres was 50,693; of these 32,337 were made by infants under the age of one year. The number of children who attended for the first time in 1941, was 3,007 and the number included 2,389 infants under the age of one year.

Visits to the homes of children under 5 years of age made by the Health Visitors amounted to 62,664. This figure included 34,334 visits to infants under one year of age.

The Health Visitors have continued to act as child life protection visitors, and have visited regularly all children registered under Sec. 206 of the Public Health Act, 1936. 549 visits in respect of 65 children were made during the year.

